

REMARKS

I. Introduction

With the cancellation herein without prejudice of claims 1 to 12 and 16 and the addition of new claims 18 to 32, claims 13 to 15 and 17 to 32 are pending in the present application. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 13 to 15 and 17 to 32 are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Response to §102(b) Rejections

Claims 1 to 3, 6 to 12, and 16 were rejected in the Final Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,030,494 ("Tenczar"). Applicant respectfully disagrees for at least the reasons set forth in Applicant's previously filed responses. However, for the purposes of expediting the prosecution of this application, claims 1 to 3, 6 to 12, and 16 have been cancelled herein without prejudice. Therefore, Applicant respectfully maintains that this rejection is moot.

III. Response to §103(a) Rejections

Claims 4 and 5 were rejected in the Final Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tenczar in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,492,147 ("Challender et al."). Applicant respectfully disagrees for at least the reasons set forth in Applicant's previously filed responses. However, for the purposes of expediting the prosecution of this application, claims 4 and 5 have been cancelled herein without prejudice. Therefore, Applicant respectfully maintains that this rejection is moot.

IV. Allowed Claims

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's finding that claims 13 to 15 and 17 are allowed.

V. New Claims 30 and 31

New claims 18 to 32 have been added herein. It is respectfully submitted that new claims 18 to 32 do not add any new matter and are fully supported by the present application, including the Specification. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable.

VI. Conclusion

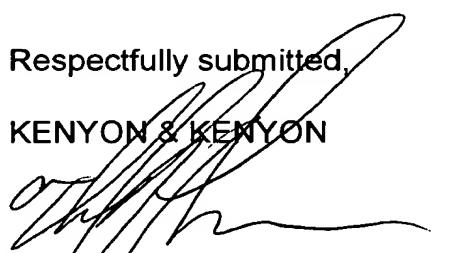
Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that such action be taken. If for any reason the Examiner believes that prosecution of this application would be advanced by contact with the Applicant's representative, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Dated: August 29, 2003

By:

Respectfully submitted,

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